Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting University of Northern Colorado October 6, 2011

Chairman Percy called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Chairman Hereford Percy, Commissioners Jeanette Garcia, Happy Haynes, Dr. Monte Moses, Patty Pacey and Jim Polsfut were in attendance. Commissioners Dave Edwards and BJ Scott attended via teleconference call. Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Michael Mincic, Dr. Frank Novotny and Senator Rollie Heath. Advisors Dr. Toni Larson, Kelly Fox, Ruth Annette Carter, Senator Evie Hudak and Representative Don Beezley also attended via conference call. In the audience were Representatives Ken Summers, Dave Young and Randy Fischer

Commissioner Haynes moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2011 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

Kay Norton, President of the University of Northern Colorado, welcomed the Commission to the UNC campus. President Norton raised concerns about the state budget, suggesting that current public support of higher education may not be sustainable pursuant to findings of the University of Denver's strategic issues panel. To address these, President Norton suggested focusing on institutions' contributions to their communities and the value of higher education to the citizens of the state. This would shift the focus of government to creating a measurable value that can be demonstrated and articulated to the citizens of the state. President Norton believes this would lead the way in thinking about how higher education institutions can both express and leverage the public investment in higher education to be as effective as possible. She believes that public higher education in Colorado is already moving in right direction based on the planning process in which the state is now engaged.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia, DHE Executive Director, reported that he had met with the majority of the Higher Education Strategic Planning (HESP) steering committee members and assured them that the HESP report, "The Degree Dividend", would be the foundational document for completion of the master planning process. The Degree Dividend was one of the first documents provided to the Education Leadership Council (ELC) at their first meeting. The ELC is an advisory body to the Governor set around educational policy not just for K-12 or higher education but a lifelong learning concept to deal with improving statewide educational outcomes. The ELC will provide policy advice to the Governor, as well as delving into legislation passed in the last few years that has affected higher education. An ELC subcommittee will be formed that will review all upcoming legislation relating to education.

Lt. Governor Garcia also mentioned that he will be embarking on an early literacy tour around the state in mid-October that will visit roughly 16 different communities. The purpose of the tour is to discover what's being accomplished in these communities to help promote early literacy. About 30 percent of children statewide are leaving third grade without being proficient readers, which negatively affects their ability to be successful in later years.

The Lt. Governor also talked about the state's significant financial challenges. The revenues continue to be flat while there are dramatic demands of the state budget, such as increased Medicaid enrollment. While nothing is official yet, higher education could experience significant cuts this fiscal year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Bruce Broderius, member of the local school board; Donna Sapienza, City of Greeley Council member; Jamie Britt, UNC Student Director of Legislative Affairs; and Walt Richter, AIMS Community College Board of Trustees Secretary all came forward to tell the Commission how important the University of Northern Colorado is to the local community and how important funding is for the school. Mr. Richter also addressed the difficulty the community college system has educating the workforce of tomorrow with the budget and funding cuts.

CONSENT ITEMS

Proposal to Offer a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Engineering and Applied Science (EASPhD) at the University of Colorado Denver

Reauthorization of Educator Preparation Unit at Colorado Christian University - College of Undergraduate Studies

Reauthorization of Educator Preparation Unit at University of Denver

Reauthorization of Educator Preparation Unit at Western State College

Degree Authorization Act – Christian University Globalnet: Request For Religious Exempt Authorization

New and Continuing State-Funded Capital Projects and Priority List, Fiscal Year 2012-13

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the consent items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and unanimously passed.

ACTION ITEMS

Degree Authorization Act – CollegeAmerica: Request For Authorization – Heather DeLange, Academic Policy Officer, presented this item. At the September CCHE meeting, the

Commission approved an amendment to the Degree Authorization policy for purposes of addressing the special case of an institution authorized under the Division of Private Occupational Schools seeking joint authorization from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to offer degrees at the baccalaureate level and higher as permitted by the Degree Authorization Act.

CollegeAmerica has three campuses—Denver, Fort Collins, and Colorado Springs—and has received authorization from its accrediting body to offer baccalaureate degrees. After minor concerns by the evaluating team were addressed with additional documentation, staff recommends the Commission approve authorization for CollegeAmerica to offer certain baccalaureate degrees. Mrs. DeLange was joined by Mr. David Martin, regional director for CollegeAmerica in Colorado, who expressed his gratitude for the Commission for putting this item on the agenda.

Commissioner Pacey moved to approve the request for authorization for CollegeAmerica's three Colorado campuses. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses and unanimously passed.

Approval of Resolution supporting Mental Health First Aid USA – Dr. Kim Poast, Associate Deputy Director for Access and Student Services, presented the resolution. At the September CCHE meeting, former First Lady Jeannie Ritter presented the Mental Health America of Colorado's (MHAC) Mental Health First Aid USA program, a non-profit association to provide leadership to address the full range of mental health and wellness issues in Colorado. The MHAC training program has been implemented at Colorado State University and MHAC believes that college campuses are key populations to target. With the support of Mrs. Ritter, the program is seeking to scale its efforts across Colorado's college campuses. The Commission asked staff to prepare a resolution in support of this program.

Commissioner Garcia moved to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacey and unanimously passed.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Educator Pipeline Project Update - Dr. Ian Macgillivray, Assistant Deputy Director for Academic Affairs, updated the Commission. Dr. Macgillivray is the co-chair of the project that is a collaborative effort between the Department of Higher Education, the Department of Education and The New Teacher Project. The goal is to make recommendations for an effectiveness-based system of educator licensure, induction, and preparation that is aligned with the state's new educator evaluation system.

Senate Bill 11-245 requires that on or before December 30, 2013, the Commission review the current system for the approval and reauthorization of educator preparation programs and make

recommendations for an updated system that is aligned with other recent statutory changes, such as SB 08-212, HB 09-1065 and SB 10-191.

The Colorado Educator Pipeline Task Force, created in August 2011, will provide recommendations and input to guide and inform the first phase of the initiative, which will focus on educator licensure and induction. The recommendations and input of the task force will guide the DHE, CDE, and TNTP in redesigning licensure and induction.

Commissioner Haynes inquired about the diversity of the task force. Dr. Macgillivray replied that every effort would be made to staff the task force with as many diverse people as possible.

Financial Aid Update – Celina Duran, Financial Aid Administrator, updated the Commission on this year's departure from the Colorado's College Responsibility Program (CCRP). The Commission approved this action at its meeting in January 2011. The CCHE's action included a provision that the allocation method would revert back to the prior method (i.e., the CCRP) after one year. The Department is collecting financial aid files from 2010-2011 and it is clear there will be additional growth in the number of eligible students. The financial aid advisory committee will be looking at models for 2012-2013 and will bring any recommendations to the Commission in December or January.

FY 2013 Financial Accountability Plans Update – Mark Cavanaugh, Chief Financial Officer, proposed a method for a governing board to amend their Financial Accountability Plan (FAP), if necessary. Mr. Cavanaugh's information item proposed a process to assist governing boards (or individual institution) to (1) submit a FAP for the first time, or (2) substantively amend its plan in light of significant changes in assumptions such as the level of state operating support or amount of state or federal financial aid available for the upcoming year.

CCHE Master Planning: State Goals Peer Institutions – Dr. Matt Gianneschi, Deputy Executive Director, and Inta Morris, Senior Director for Grants and Strategic Initiatives, presented this item. Unlike the Statewide Master Plan, this item begins to address determining how the statewide goals impact individual institutions. The potential sector and institutionspecific goals for the research universities, regional four-year colleges and the community colleges were discussed, as were the performance contracts that will be executed with each governing board. This item provides some perspectives on possible sector and institutionspecific performance concepts. Where possible, example data from comparator or "peer" institutions was provided. Staff prepared example data for each public college and university. The National Center for Higher Education Management (NCHEMS) had previously identified peers that were approved by the Commission in 2007. Staff decided to solicit feedback from the campuses on the existing lists of peers rather than attempting to reconstruct new lists from the ground up. During this process, several institutions requested modifications to their lists of peer institutions. Others offered new lists of peers. In both instances, DHE staff accepted the modifications, as this process was for illustrative, non-binding purposes. Using the current peer

institutions, NCHEMS analyzed campus performance indicators such as completion, access and productivity.

After completing the discussion on CCHE master planning, Commissioner Polsfut asked the Commission to consider endorsing Proposition 103, a citizen initiative supported by Senator Rollie Heath designed to temporarily increases the state income and sales and use tax rates and requires the state to spend the money on public education, including higher education. Although Commissioner Polsfut, citing his work on the Higher Education Strategic Plan document, asked the Commission to consider supporting Proposition 103. Commissioner Polsfut stated, "If not us, then who. And if not now, when."

Commissioner Polsfut moved an endorsement of Proposition 103 to the CCHE. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.